

Frequently Asked Questions

Law Enforcement Data Sharing



What types of law enforcement requests does DOL respond to?

We respond only to law enforcement requests for photo and applications for criminal investigations such as narcotics, financial crimes, child pornography, and violent crimes.

We do not respond to any immigration requests unless a court order is provided by a judge.

Court orders are required for immigration-related information requests from DHS, ICE, or Customs and Border Protection.

How are these requests processed by DOL?

All requests received by the License Integrity Unit, including local and state requests, are routed through three levels of internal review and approval with all potentially immigration-related requests sent through an additional review by the DOL Director and the Governor's Office. This process, along with staff training, ensures 100 percent compliance with Executive Order 17-01.

We also are developing a new, permanent process that will add even more security by requiring all law enforcement to register for access to a secure online public disclosure portal to submit and receive requests

I am concerned about the information you collect. How does DOL keep me safe?

Protecting your privacy is our highest priority. To keep you safe, we do not collect information that is not necessary or required and access to your information in our database systems is extremely limited.

Since all Washington residents can access our services, we no longer require place of birth information when we issue drivers licenses and ID cards. If you have applied with us in the past and provided your place of birth information, it won't be shared.

How many requests has DOL responded to from ICE?

Between May of 2017 to Jan. 10, 2018, there were 709 requests from immigration related agencies. The most common violation was US Code 1325, improper entry of an alien, and US Code 1326, reentry of removed aliens.

Since Jan. 10, 2018, 104 requests from potentially immigration-related law enforcement agencies were forwarded to the Governor's Office for review. 60% of these requests were approved and records were released to law enforcement. None of the approved requests were related to immigration and the most common crime was narcotics. To date, ICE has not submitted any requests accompanied by a court order.

I am concerned that my information was shared. What can I do?

To check if your information was shared with ICE prior to January 10, 2018, call our hotline at 360-359-4454. Language assistance is available.

I am experiencing difficulties accessing DOL services. Is help available?

We want to strengthen our relationship with you and ensure equal access to our services for all Washington residents. Our Office of Community Outreach is led by Rafael Estevez. Rafael and his team will assist and be an advocate for you when you have questions or need help.

Where can I find more information about this issue?

DOL, and other state agencies follow all state and federal laws, and are committed to upholding the Governor's executive order. For more information about this issue, visit dol.wa.gov.

To make our website more accessible to all Washington residents, we have added a translation tool for Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Russian, Japanese and Spanish.

dol.wa.gov